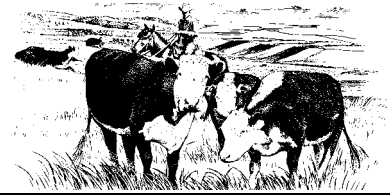


California Livestock Review



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National LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES 3:00 P.M. ET

June 13	Cattle on Feed	July 18	Cattle on Feed
20	Cold Storage	18	Cold Storage
20	Livestock Slaughter	25	Livestock Slaughter

CALIFORNIA CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in California feedlots totaled 385 thousand head on May 1, 1997, up 1 percent from last month and 26 percent from a year earlier. During April, placements of 60.0 thousand head were up 9 percent from a year earlier. Marketings of 50.0 thousand head were up 11 percent from a year ago. Other disappearance was at 5.00 thousand head.

cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 302 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 314 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 528 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 394 thousand. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.91 million, slightly above 1996. Other disappearance totaled 98.0 thousand during April, 8 percent below the previous year.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED

U.S. cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.93 million head on May 1, 1997. The inventory was 8 percent above May 1, 1996. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.54 million, 13 percent above 1996. Net placements were 1.44 million. During April, placements of

CATTLE ON FEED IN HISTORIC 7 STATES UP 9 PERCENT

Cattle on feed in the historic 7 states for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.48 million on May 1, up 9 percent from the previous year and up 3 percent from May 1, 1995. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.29 million, 12 percent above 1996, but 8 percent below 1995. Marketings during April totaled 1.64 million, 2 percent above 1996 and 14 percent above 1995. Other disappearance during April was 68.0 thousand head, 5 percent above 1996 and 11 percent above 1995.

CATTLE AND CALVES: NUMBER ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN 7 SELECTED STATES

State	Number on feed April 1 1/			Placed During April		Marketed During April	
	1996	1997	1997/1996	1996	1997	1996	1997
	----- Thousand Head -----						
Arizona	206	224	109	27	31	41	39
California	305	380	125	55	60	45	50
Colorado	1,030	1,090	106	130	155	155	180
Iowa	355	340	96	33	35	62	49
Kansas	2,080	2,270	109	345	350	400	410
Nebraska	1,900	2,030	107	230	295	370	380
Texas	2,410	2,570	107	330	360	540	530
Total 7 States	8,286	8,904	107	1,150	1,286	1,613	1,638
State	Other Disappearance During April 2/		Number on Feed May 1		1997 1996		
	1996	1997	1996	1997			
	----- Thousand Head -----					Percent	
Arizona	4	2	188	214	114		
California	10	5	305	385	126		
Colorado	5	15	1,000	1,050	105		
Iowa	1	1	325	325	100		
Kansas	15	20	2,010	2,190	109		
Nebraska	20	15	1,740	1,930	111		
Texas	10	10	2,190	2,390	109		
Total 7 States	65	68	7,758	8,484	109		

1/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

2/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding

AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

AVERAGE PRICE RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CASH, FOB AND C.O.D.							
Commodity	Unit	CALIFORNIA			UNITED STATES		
		April 1996	March 1997	April 15, 1997	April 1996	March 1997	April 15, 1997
----- Dollars -----							
All Hay, Baled <u>2</u> /	Ton	99.00	126.00	128.00	88.90	108.00	117.00
Alfalfa, Baled <u>2</u> /	Ton	108.00	127.00	132.00	93.40	116.00	123.00
Hogs <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	---	---	---	49.70	49.40	53.30
Cows <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	29.00	33.00	35.00	29.40	36.90	38.50
Steers and Heifers <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	46.00	63.00	62.00	58.10	67.90	68.20
Calves <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	54.00	68.00	67.00	55.10	80.00	82.10
Lambs <u>2</u> /	Cwt.	86.00	99.00	---	85.90	99.60	---
Milk Cows <u>3</u> /	Head	1,190.00	---	1,250.00	1,070.00	---	1,110.00
All Milk Wholesale	Cwt.	12.29	12.39	12.20	13.90	13.50	13.50

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

AVERAGE PRICES PAID BY FARMERS, PACIFIC REGION AND UNITED STATES 1/

Commodity	Unit	Pacific Region 2/		United States	
		April 1996	April 15, 1997	April 1996	April 15, 1997
		----- Dollars -----			
Bran	Cwt.	15.70	17.20	13.00	14.20
Corn Meal	Cwt.	13.40	12.90	10.60	9.30
Cottonseed Meal, 41%	Cwt.	21.10	22.10	16.80	17.20
Dairy Feed, 16%	Ton	210.00	187.00	225.00	215.00
Soybean Meal, 44%	Cwt.	22.00	24.00	15.60	17.70

1/ Prices shown represent composite average prices paid by farmers for all grades, classes and method of sale.

2/ Includes California, Oregon and Washington.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

Stocks of hay on California farms as of May 1, 1997 totaled 160 thousand tons. This is 6 percent of the December 1 stocks and is 56 percent below May 1, 1996.

United States May 1 hay stocks on farms totaled 17.4 million tons, 17 percent of the December 1 stocks, and 16 percent below May 1, 1996.

HAY STOCKS ON FARMS

State	December 1			May 1		
	1994	1995	1996	1995	1996	1997
----- 1,000 Tons -----						
California	1,642	2,250	2,594	327	361	160
Arizona	133	265	82	27	28	28
Nevada	630	750	752	42	166	60
Oregon	1,761	2,310	2,108	85	264	97
Utah	1,452	1,481	1,327	245	349	302
United States	105,296	109,438	105,208	20,775	20,739	17,375

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during April 1997 totaled 86.0 million pounds (dressed weight), 2 percent above last month, but 1 percent below April 1996. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In April, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,239 pounds; calves, 347 pounds; hogs, 214 pounds.

U.S. RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.59 billion pounds during April. This production was down 3 percent from the previous year.

April 1997 and April 1996 both contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.10 billion pounds, was down 3 percent from the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.06 million head, down 2 percent from a year earlier. The average live weight, at 1,152 pounds, was down 8 pounds from the previous year.

Veal production totaled 28.0 million pounds, down 3 percent from a year earlier. Calf slaughter totaled 129.1 thousand head, 2 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight was 351 pounds, down 6 pounds.

Pork production, at 1.45 billion pounds, was down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.73 million head, 4 percent below a year earlier. The average live weight, at 256 pounds, was up 2 pounds from the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production totaled 22.0 million pounds, down 15 percent from the previous record low set in 1996. Sheep slaughter totaled 331.3 thousand head, down 16 percent from a year ago. The average live weight was up 2 pounds to 133 pounds.

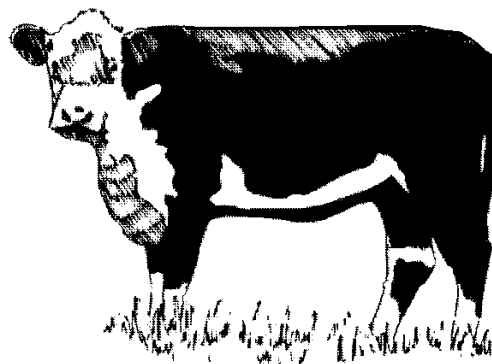
January - April red meat production was 14.0 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent; veal, down 6 percent; pork, down 4 percent; lamb and mutton, down 10 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, APRIL 1996-97 1/

Species & Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Average Live Weight	
	1996	1997	1996	1997	1996	1997
	- 1,000 Head -		- 1,000 Pounds -		- Pounds -	
CATTLE						
Calif.	81.3	85.9	99,485	106,433	1,224	1,239
U.S. Total	3,112.9	3,059.8	3,609,902	3,524,090	1,160	1,152
CALVES						
Calif.	23.2	15.2	8,512	5,255	367	347
U.S. Total	131.5	129.1	46,936	45,353	357	351
SHEEP & LAMBS						
Calif.	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
U.S. Total	393.2	331.3	51,446	44,033	131	133
HOGS						
Calif.	170.6	158.6	36,820	33,899	216	214
U.S. Total	8,034.9	7,727.4	2,039,431	1,974,748	254	256
	April 1996	March 1997 2/	April 1997	Apr. 97 Apr. 96	Apr. 97 Mar. 97	
RED MEAT	--- Million Pounds ---		-- Percent --			
Calif.	86.6	84.1	86.0	99	102	
U.S. Total	3,693.1	3,443.6	3,591.9	97	104	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

2/ Revised figures for March 1996 U.S. total.



COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES 1/

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: UNITED STATES 1/								
Kind	April 1996	March 1997	April 1997	April 1997 Percent of:		Jan. - Apr. 2/		
				April 1996	March 1997	1996	1997	1997/1996
	--- Million Pounds ---			-- Percent --		-- Million Pounds --		Percent
Beef	2,154	1,968	2,096	97	107	8,458	8,208	97
Veal	28	28	28	97	100	119	112	94
Pork	1,485	1,422	1,446	97	102	5,874	5,639	96
Lamb & Mutton	25	26	22	85	83	99	89	90
Total Red Meat	3,693	3,444	3,592	97	104	14,550	14,048	97

1/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Accumulated totals and percentages based on unrounded data.